

L I T T L E R O C K



Parks & Recreation

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Little Rock, AR 72201
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City In A Park Newsletter

August, 2014



Truman Tolefree – Director,
Little Rock Parks & Recreation

Director's Message

They say that time flies when you are having fun. Well, we must have had a lot of fun this summer, because the time has flown by, but we had a very productive and busy summer.

We put the wraps on the 94th edition of the Summer Playground Program, we celebrated the 20th anniversary of Southwest Community Center, and we hosted the 29th Annual Little Rock Fishing Derby and the 2nd Annual Summer Bash. We are moving forward with plans for the new West Central Community Center. We have completed a number of construction projects and have our sites beginning others. We have said goodbye to members of the LRPR family that have retired or moved on to other pursuits and we have welcomed in new members who will help us to reach new heights.

As we transition for the summer to the fall, we look forward to continuing the momentum we have gathered and to serving the citizens of Little Rock with the best parks & recreation department available. Our purpose is to serve you, so if there is ever any way that we can improve or some new endeavor for us to take up, please let us know.



Children participating in the Summer Bash in 2014

Stay In Touch With LRPR

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|---|----------|
| Main Office | 371-4770 |
| Parks Administration..... | 371-4470 |
| Public Relations | 371-4470 |
| Park Operations..... | 371-6851 |
| Little Rock Marathon | 918-5321 |
| Therapeutic Recreation | 570-1131 |
| Youth Athletics | 371-6855 |
| Adult Athletics | 371-6859 |
| Senior Programs..... | 371-6854 |
| Summer Playground Program..... | 371-6858 |
| Centre at University Park..... | 661-1700 |
| Dunbar Community Center | 376-1084 |
| Stephens Community Center | 603-9974 |
| Southwest Community Center..... | 918-3975 |
| Jim Dailey Fitness & Aquatic Center | 664-6976 |
| MacArthur Museum | 376-4602 |
| Hindman Golf Course | 565-6450 |
| War Memorial Golf Course..... | 663-0854 |
| Rebsamen Golf Course..... | 666-7965 |
| Rebsamen Tennis Center..... | 664-0736 |
| Pavilion Reservations | 371-4770 |
| Ballpark Reservations | 372-3285 |

For other information, please visit www.lrpr.org

Jenkins Wins Annual 4th of July Championship

Congratulations to Chris Jenkins who won the 78th Annual 4th of July Championship at War Memorial Golf Course. Jenkins joins Jay Fox as the only six-time winners of the Championship. Jenkins shot a four-under par 188 over the 54-hole par 64 course. For all of the scores please visit <http://warmemorialgolf.com/events/event/78th-fourth-of-july-championship>.

Dunbar Summer League Closes With Title Game

The Men's Summer Basketball League at Dunbar Community Center wrapped up with its championship game at the end of July. The league featured teams with current and former college athletes, as well as current and former professional players. Sophisticated Urban defeated the Arkansas



Current NBA star and Little Rock native Joe Johnson with fans at Dunbar Community Center

Rockets in the championship game. Current Brooklyn Net and Little Rock native Joe Johnson was on hand during the championship game to visit with fans, take pictures,

sign autographs and he purchased t-shirts for kids to have something for him to sign.

Aarrrrrrre You Ready For The 2015 Marathon?

The date of the 13th Little Rock Marathon has been set for Sunday, March 1, 2015. A video was recently released announcing the new theme for the 2015 race.

As always, the stars of the video were our very own Geneva & Gina. You can see that video at the Little Rock Marathon's Facebook page. As always, you can find all of the marathon information, fun and excitement on www.littlerockmarathon.com.



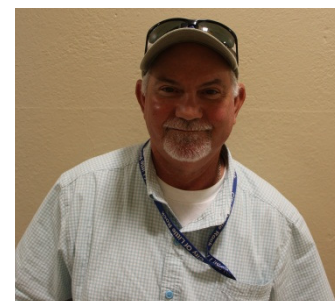
Night of Champions Highlights Softball Season

The "Night of Champions" for the Adult Softball league at Interstate Park took place on Tuesday, July 22. The night featured championship games in four different divisions. In the co-ed upper division it was 501 Swagg topping top-seed Derrty/Impact in a slugfest 37-30. Krishna (KB) Baker and Dave (Super Dave) Jenkins were named MVPs. In the co-ed lower division, Scared Hitless, the sixth seed in the tournament defeated the top-seed, A-State Ballers 13-11, in a tight game. Drew Cantrell and Carolyn Brown were named MVPs. MVP Stacy Tapping led Retribution to a 21-3 win over the Sliders to claim the LRPR Women's City Championship. The Buschwackers won their eighth-consecutive Men's City Championship behind MVP Paul McGuire. The Buschwackers topped NWA 5-4 in eight innings. See a photo album at <https://imageshack.com/a/2aIz/1>.



Jon Light Named Parks Maintenance Manager

Congratulations to Jon Light, who was recently promoted to Parks Maintenance Manager. He replaces Jim Sick who retired earlier this year after 41 years with Little Rock Parks & Recreation. Jon has been with Little Rock Parks & Recreation for a number of years, filling a variety of capacities. Most recently, he was the maintenance foreman for the extensive trails system of Little Rock Parks & Recreation.



Jon Light – Parks Maintenance Manager

Annual Fishing Derby Attracts Nearly 900 Kids

The 29th Annual Fishing Derby took place on Thursday, July 17 at MacArthur Park from 8:30-11:30 a.m. Nearly 900 children between the ages of 6-15



took part in the event. There were 125 specially-tagged fish that when caught

allowed children to choose from a variety of prizes provided by Bass Pro Shops, Arkansas Game & Fish Commission and the Little Rock Parks Commission. Follow this link to see a photo album of the Fishing Derby <https://imageshack.com/a/yaIz/1>.

The 2nd Annual Summer Bash a Huge Success

The second year of the Summer Bash featured nine different singing and dancing acts as well as art exhibits. The judges for this year included LRPR Director Truman Tolefree, the



The "Glory Boys" from Dunbar Community Center – winners of the 2014 Summer Bash

Little Rock Marathon's Geneva Lamm & Gina Pharis, and former NBA great and Little Rock native Sidney Moncrief. The judges awarded "The Glory Boys" from Dunbar Community Center with the top prize.



Mr. Donnie Cook, Arkansas President of Bank of America Merrill Lynch presenting a check for \$10,000 to continue a three-year partnership with the Museum of Discovery and the Summer Playground Program

The Bash also featured a special presentation, as the Bank of America Foundation was on hand to present a \$10,000 check to continue the partnership between Bank of America and the

Museum of Discovery to allow the participants in the Summer Playground Program to attend the museum at no cost during the program. For a photo album of the event, click <https://imageshack.com/a/GNEz/1>.

Community Centers Reach Milestones

Congratulations to Southwest Community Center on celebrating its 20th Anniversary in the month of June. Congratulations also to Dunbar Community Center, which will celebrate its 60th anniversary in October.

Museum to Receive WWII Shell Casings

A recent visit to the MacArthur Museum of Arkansas Military History by Ms. Elisabeth van der Steenhoven from Belgium has resulted in a donation to the museum of shell casings that were used in fighting to liberate



Ms. Elisabeth van der Steenhoven presenting a photo of the shell casings which will be donated to the MacArthur Museum to Museum Director Stephan McAteer

Luxembourg from Nazi occupation during World War

II. Ms. van der Steenhoven, who was born in Luxembourg, chose the MacArthur Museum for these artifacts due to the many Arkansans who participated in the liberation effort of her country. While visiting Little Rock, Ms. van der Steenhoven was given a tour of the facility by Museum Director, Stephan McAteer.



Ms. van der Steenhoven and Mr. McAteer on a tour of the MacArthur Museum

Rebsamen Golf Course Selected "Best Of" 2014

For the second-consecutive year, the readers of the Arkansas Times have selected Rebsamen Golf Course as the "Best of Arkansas" golf course in central Arkansas. The War Memorial Golf Course was listed as a runner-up, along with Pleasant Valley Country Club and Chenal Country Club. Also mentioned in the Arkansas Times "Best of



Arkansas" lists were the trails at Allsop Park and Two Rivers Park among the runners up for best hiking trails. On the list of best parks in the area, Two Rivers Park and Murray Park made the list of the top four.

Wallace Represents Little Rock at National Meet

Cameron Wallace, a 10-year old participant in the Latchkey program at Stephens Community Center, finished 12th at the Hershey's National Track Championships in Hershey, PA on August 2nd. Wallace was competing in the softball throw event had a best mark of 142 feet. He won the local LPRR meet, as well as the Hershey's state championship meet to qualify for the national meet. Wallace also participates in the football and basketball programs at the community centers, as well as the running club and takes part in Race for the Cure.

Rebsamen Golf Welcomes "Jill"

The Rebsamen Golf Course has welcomed Jill, the new "goose dog" to the staff. Jill will be filling the duties previously held by our beloved Fern, who passed earlier this year. Stop by the golf course and welcome Jill.



Busy Summer for MacArthur Museum

The MacArthur Museum of Arkansas Military History had another busy, but productive summer. Early in the summer, the Museum was host to the swearing-in ceremony for 38 enlistees in the Arkansas National Guard and active duty military. Later in the summer, Dr. Rachel Miller was named as the new Museum Program Assistant, bringing a wealth of qualifications to the position, which will be a tremendous addition to the Museum. In early July there was a concert by the Air National Guard Band of the Southwest on



Gov. Mike Beebe and recently sworn-in enlistees in the Arkansas National Guard



Dr. Rachel Miller

grounds of the Museum. Recently, the Museum hosted its second Vintage Military Vehicle show on July 26 (photos available here www.flickr.com/photos/macarthurmuseum/). The Museum also launched an updated website (www.arkmilitaryheritage.com) which may be accessed through www.lrpr.org as well.

Rebsamen Tennis Keeping the Courts Full

The Rebsamen Tennis Center has hosted a number of state, regional and national tournaments lately, and the trend will continue into the fall. In addition to a growing league schedule hosted at the center, Rebsamen served as the host to the USTA Boy's & Girl's Southern 16's, one of the most prestigious tournaments in the south for youth tennis. Rebsamen also hosted the



USTA National Warm-Up Tournament (Boys' 12) at the end of the July. The Arkansas Tennis Association continues to host its state tournaments in central Arkansas in conjunction with Rebsamen Tennis



Center and Burns Park. This will continue into the fall with three more state tournaments scheduled. The center will also serve as the home court for six local

high schools in the fall. Rebsamen will host one high school state tournament in late October.

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